IBM PC

French

II

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LANGUAGE TEACHER SERIES (FRENCH II)

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INTRODUCTION

LANGUAGE TEACHER is a series of menu-driven language tutorials designed to run on microcomputers. Each program in the series contains hundreds of word combinations and verb conjugation forms. French II features 864 French/English word combinations and 1600 verb conjugation forms. LANGUAGE TEACHER works with a line printer.

The program randomly selects all word, phrase and verb conjugations so you cannot predict the next selection. The program package is designed to provide practice drills to increase your working vocabulary and to increase your facility in using verb conjugation forms. LANGUAGE TEACHER is not designed to enhance conversational language or pronunciation skills.

PROGRAM SPECIFICATIONS

LANGUAGE TEACHER requires at least 128K bytes of RAM, one disk drive and a suitable high-resolution, 80-column monitor. Recommended monitors include:

> IBM Monochrome Display (and Printer Adapter)
> Black and white "direct drive" RGB monitor attached to the Color/
> Graphics Monitor Adapter

In most cases a high-quality monitor provides the necessary resolution to display the special characters LANGUAGE TEACHER uses. (See the section entitled SPECIAL CHARACTER SETS.) All other program functions will work on a low-quality color monitor. An 80-column line printer is optional.

PREPARING YOUR DISKETTE

SINGLE DRIVE SYSTEMS

Insert your DOS diskette in Drive A.

Type: SYS B: <ENTER>

The computer will then instruct you to insert a diskette for Drive B. Remove your DOS diskette from the drive, insert your LANGUAGE TEACHER diskette and hit <ENTER>. When the system files have been transferred you will see the message:

SYSTEM TRANSFERRED

Then, with the A> prompt, remove the LANGUAGE TEACHER diskette from the drive and insert the DOS diskette.

Type: COPY COMMAND.COM B: <ENTER>

You will be prompted to insert a diskette for Drive A. This refers to the DOS diskette. Simply hit <ENTER>. The computer will then ask you to insert a diskette for Drive B. Insert the LANGUAGE TEACHER diskette. At the end of the copying process you will see the message:

1 FILE(S) COPIED

Your diskette is now ready to boot up.

DUAL DRIVE SYSTEMS

Insert your DOS diskette in Drive A and your LANGUAGE TEACHER diskette in Drive B and

Type: SYS B: <ENTER>

After the file has been copied you will see the message:

SYSTEM TRANSFERRED

Then

Type: COPY COMMAND.COM B: <ENTER>

At the end of the copying process you will see the message:

1 FILE(S) COPIED

Your diskette is now ready to boot up.

SPECIAL CHARACTER SETS

LANGUAGE TEACHER uses the IBM PC special function keys to enter the special characters used in the French language. These keys are active only when you are doing a forced-choice (nonmultiple-choice) drill. The following special function keys are available:

F1 = à
F2 = â
F3 = á
F4 = è
F5 = ê
F6 = é
F7 = ì
F8 = ò
F9 = ù
F10 = û
[up arrow] = î
[down arrow] = ç

NOTE: The average line printer cannot recognize these special characters. Therefore, these special characters are converted to ordinary letters before being output to the printer. You may want to insert the special characters by hand when you get your printout.

LOADING THE PROGRAM

Insert the program diskette in Drive A and reboot the system.

PROGRAM OPTIONS

You get a menu listing these options:

            <A>   NOUN VOCABULARY DRILL
            <B>   VERB VOCABULARY DRILL
            <C>   MISCELLANEOUS WORD VOCABULARY DRILL
            <D>   RANDOM SELECTION VOCABULARY DRILL
            <E>   VERB CONJUGATION DRILL
            <F>   RETEST MISSED VOCABULARY
            <G>   DIAGNOSTIC RESULTS
            <H>   PRINT NOUN VOCABULARY TEST
            < I >   PRINT VERB VOCABULARY TEST
            <J>   PRINT MISCELLANEOUS WORD VOCABULARY TEST
            <K>   PRINT RANDOM SELECTION VOCABULARY TEST
            <L>   PRINT VERB CONJUGATION TEST

MENU OPTIONS EXPLAINED

Option <A>: Noun Vocabulary Drill

This option gives you a vocabulary drill using nouns only. You get this message when you select option <A>:

    Inputting data

This means the program is getting information from the diskette. If you change your mind while the program is getting information, you can type X to return to the main program menu.

After the program has retrieved all the data, you get this message:

    Do you want a multiple choice type quiz (Y/N/X = Escape)?

Typing X gets you back to the main program menu. Typing Y gives you a multiple-choice quiz. Typing N gives you a more difficult, single-answer quiz. If you answered Y or N, you get this prompt:

    Do you want English to French or French to English
    (E/F/X = Escape)?

As usual, the X response gets you back to the program menu. Make the appropriate selection. You can get this prompt at any point during your quiz to switch the type of quiz.

The program makes sure no word is given twice during the test. Also, no duplicates appear in the multiple-choice answers. NOTE: The program takes longer as fewer selections remain.

If you indicated N to the multiple-choice quiz, you must type in the exact answer along with the appropriate noun article. In French these articles are:

l'—singular for nouns beginning with a vowel
le—masculine singular
la—feminine singular
les—masculine or feminine plural

You can get out of the drill from here by typing X. When you have used up all the available noun choices you get this message:

You have been quizzed with all English to French [or French to English] selections.

Hit any key to select French to English [or English to French] option.

Typing X returns you to the French-to-English prompt. From here you can type X to return to the main menu.

Option <B>: Verb Vocabulary Drill

The <B> option works the same way as the <A> option, except option <B> uses verbs instead of nouns.

Option <C>: Miscellaneous Word Vocabulary Drill

This option works the same way as the <A> and <B> options, except that only non-noun or non-verb words are displayed.

Option <D>: Random Selection Vocabulary Drill

This option works the same way as options <A>, <B> and <C>, except that the words from two randomly selected files are displayed. The type of word you are being quizzed on (NOUN, VERB or MISC) appears beside the word you are being quizzed on during the English-to-French option. This feature exists to prevent any confusion caused by two different word types that are the same in English, but different in French.

Option <E>: Verb Conjugation Drill

This option gives you a verb conjugation drill. The six major tenses of each verb—present, imperfect, future and conditional—are displayed along with the six persons:

je (I)
tu (you singular)
il (he), elle (she)
nous (we)
vous (you plural)
ils (them), elles (feminine plural)

for each tense. It is extremely unlikely that you will get the same example twice in the verb conjugation quiz.

If you have selected a multiple-choice quiz, you only have twenty-five seconds to enter your answer. If your time is up before you make your choice, you will be credited with an incorrect answer.

Option <F>: Retest Missed Vocabulary

This option retests you on any vocabulary you missed. The examples presented are identical to those that appear using the regular options, except that you don't get a display of your percentage of correct answers and your multiple-choice option is the same as it was on your initial program run. (You can't change it.) NOTE: Sorry, but the program can't retest you on your verb conjugation errors.

Option <G>: Diagnostic Results

This option lets you review your incorrect answers. If your original selection was the verb conjugation drill, the diagnostic display shows you how many of each person and tense you missed. If you missed more than three of any person or tense, asterisks (*) appear beside the items you missed. The asterisks show you which areas you need more practice in. You also get a display of the total number of verbs you were tested on, the number of items you answered correctly and your final percentage of correct answers. You can print the screen contents if you like. NOTE: You can use the <PrtSc> key on your IBM keyboard to print the screen.

If your original choice was the vocabulary drill, the diagnostic routine displays all your wrong answers and shows the errors you made during the retest option. You also get a display of how many combinations remain in your original option selection or in the retest option (if you used it). This feature exists so you can call the diagnostic routine at any time during primary testing or retesting. NOTE: You can have your results printed on your line printer if you like.

PRINT OPTIONS

You can print multiple-choice tests for these options:

Option <H>:   Print Noun Vocabulary Test
Option <I>:   Print Verb Vocabulary Test
Option <J>:   Print Miscellaneous Word Vocabulary Test
Option <K>:   Print Random Selection Vocabulary Test
Option <L>:   Print Verb Conjugation Test

If you try to print something when your printer isn't ready, you get an error message. You are then reprompted to make a new selection.

These options can save valuable hours of test preparation for teachers. The printing options take information from the diskette and display multiple choices for each quiz item just as the regular options <A> through <F>. The printouts do not give you a display of the correct answers. The program forces a multiple-choice display.

The print options don't prompt for an answer to the item. Instead you choose from these responses:

Hit <P> to print selection,
    <N> for new selection, or
    <X> to exit.

NOTE: Choices are not eliminated during the printing options as with the regular options. This feature gives you greater flexibility in choosing items for a printed test.